

THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

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BIG RED FLATT-OUT BEATS BA

BA's 34 Game Win Streak Ended by Big Red



by Stephen Wiser

On the Friday night of September 19, the Big Red squared off against arch-rival Brentwood Academy in a football game never to be forgotten. Motivated by last year's overtime defeat in the state playoffs, MBA's football team was determined to knock off the nationally ranked Brentwood Academy Eagles.

Before an overflow crowd at Tommy Owen Stadium, BA struck first on a twenty-four yard field goal. Then school history was made with 3:08 remaining in the first quarter as senior place-kicker Joe Pat McGuigan booted a fifty-one yard field goal.

McGuigan added another field goal with 4:40 left in the second quarter to make the score six to three in favor of the Big Red. MBA went into the locker room with a three-point edge over the defending 5-A state champs after a half dominated by defense.

Brentwood Academy was the first to threaten to score in the second half. The Eagles had driven deep into the Big Red territory, but were denied a score as MBA's Blake Sloan recovered a fumble with 6:00 remaining in the third quarter. Early in the fourth quarter, the Eagles managed to convert on a forty-three yard field goal attempt, which tied

the game at six apiece. After the unsuccessful drives, the momentum shifted towards the Big Red when Blake Sloan returned a BA punt deep into the opposing team's territory. This return set up Sloan's magnificent twenty-six yard touchdown run through traffic, which put MBA up for good. Thanks to great blocking from the offensive line and a lot of determination on Sloan's part, MBA's quarterback was able to score the only touchdown of the game. BA, however, did not give up. The Eagles put together one last drive as the end of the game. After driving deep into Big Red territory, Brentwood Academy faced a 4th and 9 from the MBA 19 yard line. To put an end to the

Eagles' hopes, David McIntosh, who rushed for over one hundred and twenty yards on offense, poked off the fourth down pass. This interception preserved the Big Red's victory.

This historic game was truly a team effort, and MBA's defense repeatedly stifled the Eagles' offense. Blake Sloan's, Joe Pat McGuigan's, and David McIntosh's game breaking plays sealed this great victory, undoubtedly one of the largest in MBA's recent history. It will not be forgotten for a long time.

The Big Red has improved its record to six wins and two losses overall since this memorable victory over Brentwood Academy by knocking off Henry County, Baylor, and Christian Brothers. MBA came up short in a great game at Vanderbilt's Oudry Field versus Father Ryan. At this point in the season, it looks as if the Big Red will get a chance in the playoffs to avenge this loss to the Fighting Irish. All the players will agree that everyone associated with MBA must be present for this rematch which will hopefully take the Big Red one step closer to the Clinic Bowl.



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Nashville, Tennessee

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Summer Trip - British Isles

by Preston Bottomy

When I signed up for this trip, I never realized how much there is to do and see in the British Isles. Every one of our eighteen days in the United Kingdom this summer brought about a new and exciting experience for me. In London, fighting off the eleven o'clock crowds, we witnessed the ever popular "changing of the guards" at Buckingham Palace. We rode the tube (British version of the subway) all across the breathtaking city, stopping to visit the parks, walk around the lakes and "charter rowing skills." One afternoon was spent racing rowing boats around a minuscule lake in Green Park. We did all the touristy things one must do while visiting such an historically rich area. We stopped at Stonehenge (which is in the middle of nowhere), intrigued by the unusually puzzling monument. I still wonder how those Brits were able to carve and lift such heavy stones without today's technology. We stopped to see Shakespeare's home in Stratford-upon-Avon, not forgetting to take a peek at Anne Hathaway's cottage, as well. While there, some of us ventured

to the movie house to check the recently released movie *Con-Air*. We traveled to Bath to see the remains of the Roman spas, and we met up with Mr. Gioia to look at Oxford. Our trip would not have been complete without a visit to Scotland, where Sean Cunningham filled the countryside with bagpipe tunes. Our stop at Edinburgh included a trip to the bowling alleys, which Sinclair and I missed because we were changing our dollars into pounds at the local department store. Sinclair and I did not seem to have much luck when we were together. The night before, we found ourselves sitting alone with Helen, the "she-devil," and Marty, her boring father who was only interested in talking about himself and his success. We found our conversation always turning to Wisconsin, their beloved homeland, and its apparently superb cheese. So sick of hearing about the cheese industry, I finally concluded, "Well, we have a nice selection of cheeses at Kroger." I thought that might shut them up for a while, but instead Sinclair and I got to listen to Helen describing her husband's job, which was to analyze dirt, quite an exciting job



Happy tourists posing in front of Stonehenge. Credit: Amber Worrell

from the way her irritatingly monotonous voice explained it. Finally we escaped and boarded a ferry to Ireland. On board at the McDonald's, we were cheerfully served our Mad-Cow-Disease-stricken hamburgers by a drunken teenager, who was later spotted puking in the bathroom. Once we arrived on solid ground, after finishing our duty-free shopping, we toured Dublin and the rest of Ireland. Finally the Wisconsin group, led by the inoffensible Helen and Marty, returned home, and we were left by ourselves with Kathryn, our wonderful courier. We could not have seen it all, had it not been for her, our fearless leader, who led us

through the British Isles. We concluded the trip with a visit to Starlight Express followed by the Hard Rock Cafe, where we were served by the world's rudest waitress, who, soon after we left, found herself with a one-cent tip. Looking back at my summer, I believe that traveling across the Atlantic could not have been more fun! I had a blast and would do it again in an instant!

If you would like to see photographs from our overseas journey, please check out Amber Worrell's marvelous snap-shots on display in the Patrick Wilson Library.

Parking Lot Scandal on the Hill: Is Your Car Safe?

By Jonathan Williams

Car break-ins are on the rise at MBA, and it is no wonder, because the parking lots are looking more like a car show than a high school lot. MBA always experiences car break-ins throughout the course of the year, usually only three or four. However, four have taken place only four weeks into this school year. This fact raises the question: what can be done?

All around town, places are becoming more patrolled and more restricted as more security is

needed in our everyday lives. Over the years, Mr. Gioia has contacted the police several times, and he has asked for increased patrols for incidents like the break-ins two weeks ago. He has even talked to the Chief of Police and the Mayor himself. Still, little help has been received. So what's the plan? Said Mr. Gioia, "I do not want MBA to become a gated community, cut off from the community. But being right here on West End, you are so open to the world. More teachers, maintenance people, and myself will be

randomly strolling through the parking lots, keeping an eye on things. We may look into putting up security cameras."

Radios are the item of choice, along with valuables you leave in your car. So a temporary solution may be to detach the face on your CD player, if you can, and certainly do not leave valuables in your car. A good security system is a deterrent as well.

In general, the community respects MBA and its possessions. Mr. Gioia was reminded last year of a father who found several

wallets belonging to MBA students in his son's car. He returned them and reimbursed the students for what was taken and apologized for his son's actions. Hopefully the same respect will show up in this situation.

But until then, we will have to rely on the watchful eye of teachers and neighbors, including Mr. Gioia himself, who now lives across the street. "I am going to take a more personal action in this matter, now that I am living close to campus."

(Editor's note: The day the article was written, another car was broken into, the fifth this year.)

Summer Trip--Italy/Greece

By Alex Harwell

A few hours on a plane riding with eight MBA students and seven Harpeth Hall students and we were in Milan, Italy. After a spectacular view of Milan, the group stopped off at Verona, the village renowned for one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, *Romeo and Juliet*. The bus trolled us along the beautiful countryside of Italy, where we made our final destination of the first day: Venice.

Venice is the most beautiful city I have ever seen and probably ever will see. The canals and incredible architecture lured us into the deep history of the ancient city. One of the most rewarding experiences of the trip came when we decided to take a gondola ride with some inspiring Italians.

From Venice, the group traveled to Florence. In Florence we were allowed to view the tombs of important figures in history such as Machiavelli, Michelangelo, and Galileo (not to mention incredible artwork and sculptures). Everyone in the group enjoyed a fabulous night of mingling among the Italians at one of Florence's famous discotheques. In Florence, there seems to be a custom that we do not practice here in America that was not a big hit with some of the group. One car full of Italian soldiers actually spit on my comrades and me as we attempted to cross a street. Things are pretty different over there than here in the good ol' USA.

After an exciting stay in Florence, our courier took us to Italy's capital, Rome, the Primi Raggi capital of the world. Here, we finally got to put all those years of Latin to use. As we looked upon the Roman Forum, the group got a real feeling of what the world used to look like and an idea of how it used to function. An excursion to Ostia

Antica, the main port of ancient Rome, constituted a fantastic visit for us. A free day in Rome found us at the Spanish Steps as some of the group wandered into fancy (not to mention expensive) clothing store. We left the store as true Italians as we wandered back to the hotel.

We boarded our coach bound for lively Naples, Sorrento, a bustling metropolis, with a rich cultural heritage, set in magnificent scenery. Here we took our first swim in the Mediterranean Sea, which felt quite nice. The next day, we took an excursion to the famous island of Capri, where we visited the glorious Blue Grotto. Once we arrived back in Sorrento, we realized that we forgot something on the boat. Kevin came back after more than five hours riding on the back of some random Italian's scooter after falling asleep on the boat back to our hotel. After a more than serene visit to Sorrento, we had to leave, boarding our steamer bound for Greece. I could have sworn that when we left Italy, I saw a tear in the eyes of each person in the group.

We landed in Patras, known for its arcaded streets and bustling harbor. Long ago, St. Andrew preached Christianity here and was crucified. The next day we enjoyed an excursion to Delphi relishing the Temple of Apollo and the Great Altar. Before the sun went down for the night, we arrived in Athens, Greece. While in Athens we viewed the renowned Parthenon on the ancient Acropolis. That evening we ventured down to the Plaka, a collection of incredible little shops along the street and attended a cheesy, but neat light and sound show on Phryx Hill.

The following day, the group took a short cruise to the Greek isles of Aegina, Hydra and Poros. With the hot sun on our backs, the group decided to take a

News Briefs

National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists

This year's senior class has nine National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists. A.J. Byrd, Dave Alexander, Preston Bottomy, Andy Cantarata, Joey Crace, Jason Demopolous, Houston Howell, Nathan Sabel, and Andrew Thomson have received this honorable distinction for outstanding scores on the PSAT/NMSQT, and they are now working hard to try to win the ultimate goal, a Merit Scholarship.

Other Scholarship Nominees

Three members of the senior class are up for prestigious scholarships. Grant Dickson is nominated for the Morehead Scholarship to the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Preston Bottomy is nominated for the Jefferson Scholarship to the University of Virginia-Richmond, and Mark Burish is nominated for the Coca-Cola Scholarship, which is a scholarship that is not from a specific college but is sponsored by the Coca-Cola Company.

Recent Assemblies Excite Students and Faculty Alike

Two of the most exciting assemblies in recent history occurred this past month at MBA.

First, Wallace alumnus Joe Thompson gave an uplifting speech to the student body, faculty, and staff on how to lead a balanced life and how not to fall victim to alcohol or pornography.

On October 6, MBA alumnus Carter Andrews and his daughter stunned the MBA community with their magnificent juggling performances. The final stunt included Mr. Andrews twirling two large flaming sticks—topless.

Curry Recognized For Outstanding Support

At assembly on September 7, Mr. John Curry, whom Mr. Gioia called "a great friend to the school," was recognized for his attending over 340 consecutive MBA football games. Even though he is slowed down at times by his health, Mr. Curry actively seeks a way to get to the games, no matter how far away from Nashville they may be.

Mr. Regen reports that when he attended MBA, some twenty five years ago, Mr. Curry filmed the football games for the school.

Update on Graduates

The Class of 1997 had many outstanding athletes, including John Markham, Will Bartholemew, and Scott Denbo. John is currently the starting kicker at Vanderbilt, doing everything there from kicking off to making long field goals and chipping in extra points. Will fractured his ankle while practicing at a University of Tennessee football practice but may be able to return by the end of the season. Over the summer, Scott won the shot-put at the Pan-Am games. Also, he was named the Tennessee (High School) Player of the Year by the Circle of Champions, an award sponsored by Gatorade.

dip in the cooling crystal clear water of Hydra. As we said our last farewells to Greece at about four a.m., I began to conjure some thoughts that I would like to share with you.

First of all, don't ever go into St. Francis church wearing a "butt-wipe-er" T-shirt. You get

all sorts of stares and remarks from your friends. Don't ever buy postcards from Italians yelling, "Twenty million postcards—one American dollar!" in broken English. When a gypsy approaches you wanting you to buy

(Continued on page 4)



MBA Adds Six New Teachers to Faculty

by Gabe Roth



Jack Higgins: Just recently, Mr. Higgins received a bachelors degree in Physics from Georgetown University. Besides teaching Physics and also introduction to Physical Science, he will work with the athletic program by helping to coach in the football program.



Dr. Cal Fuller: Dr. Fuller, who is now the Director of the Theater Program at MBA, is a native Tennessean who went to Davidson College for his undergraduate degree and then attended the University of Chicago for his M.A. and Northwestern for his Ph.D. For the past nine years, he has worked at DePaul University.



Jeff Lundstrom: Mr. Lundstrom is MBA's first faculty intern. He will not be a full-time teacher, although he will be around the campus working with not only the junior schoolers to whom he teaches computer science but also in the Alumni & Development office, as well as assisting with the lacrosse program as well as other sports. Jeff is an MBA alumnus and graduated from Bucknell University where he received a B.A. in International Relations.



Dr. Jim Shackleford: Dr. Fuller, who retired after a long career with IBM, decided to become involved in education—again: he has taught at Fisk, Belmont, and Cumberland Universities. He graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in Civil Engineering and went on to get an M.E. at the University of Florida and a Ph.D. and Vanderbilt. He is now the chairman of the Math Department and is teaching Algebra II and Calculus/Statistics.

Greece/Italy Trip cont.

a "cool" coke bottle lighter, don't get it. The thing works for about a day until you pry it open with a knife. Also, when you agree to let a Roman tie a bracelet around your wrist, just say no. I'm sure they would love to get five, six or sixty dollars for it. Be sure to pronounce the name, Umberto, right because otherwise they hate you. Treat little old Greek men with utmost respect, because they will keep feeding you until you throw up. Plus, they smash plates on the floor! When a Greek man approaches you in the dark and stares at you, run. You'll be thankful later. And lastly, two of the most important words in the Italian language—Primi Raggi. That is all you need to know to survive.

I would love to thank everyone that contributed to putting together this trip. I would like to thank especially Mrs. Dickerson, Mr. DeYoung, and Dr. Myers at Harpeth Hall. If you ever get a chance to go to either Italy or Greece, go; it was the most rewarding experience in my life.

Art Department to Take Students to Chicago

Mr. Womack and Dr. Fuller will be taking students in the Art History AP, Art Studio AP, and Theater Arts classes to Chicago November 6-9. While there, they will see three theater performances—*Second City*, a show in which many Saturday Night Live actors, such as John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd, got their start, *The Merchant of Venice*, by Shakespeare, and also a production of *You Can't Take It With You*, visit the birthplace and studio of Frank Lloyd Wright, and visit three art museums, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Terra Museum, and the Art Institute, know best among students for housing the large picture by Seurat composed of only dots that was in *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. They will also take a tour of downtown, a place chock-full of skyscrapers and other architectural wonders.



Jamie Redmond: Mr. Redmond started work this summer as MBA's new strength and conditioning coach. He has worked with YMCA programs in Nashville and has been active in college and professional athletics. A graduate from Oak Ridge High School, he went on to receive his BA at Middle Tennessee State University.



John Paul Bernatavitz: Mr. Bernatavitz, who moved to Nashville with his wife this summer from Baltimore, is teaching Latin and History as well as working with the lacrosse and football programs. After attending Dickinson College where he majored in Latin and minored in History, he went to Notre Dame, where he received a master's degree in Latin. For the past six years he taught Latin at a preparatory school in Baltimore.

Emac's Corner

A take on life from Harpeth Hall's very own Elizabeth McClellan.

I don't know about you, but I'm growing fairly disillusioned with the "technological revolution" supposedly raging around me.

I'll admit it—I've been sucked in. T1-83, PC, IBM, 14-4, 28-8, ISDN... the lingo sounds like the rapid-fire code of an Army general under stress, but for most people I know, it's all too real. True, I usually prefer using a computer, no matter how temperamental or slow, to clacking away on the ancient typewriter I'm relegated to at work... it's less noisy and more versatile. But when a major paper is due in 15 minutes and I find myself clashing around school cursing Bill Gates under my breath as I seek a printer that will work. I often think longingly of the machine-gun hum of a Smith-Corona at 90 words per minute. Life should be so simple.

A friend of mine (who sympathizes with my plight, as she often finds herself in the same

situation), snapped last school year around term paper deadlines. Raving, she scrawled a Neo-Luddite call to action on the blackboards of Harpeth Hall, urging her fellow students to join her in a Macintosh smash-a-thon in front of the administration building. She calmed down once the network was back up, but it got me thinking about our ever-growing reliance on our machines.

When our physics teacher takes away our calculators on a quiz, panic set in. I'm in the computer lab most every morning and checking my e-mail or typing an essay. We as students can't do everything required of us with pencil and paper any longer. While frozen computers and reticent printers annoy and occasionally hamper me, I simply have to deal with it. However, I'm getting worried: my future keeps looking more and more like one of those black and white IBM commercials.

The aforementioned "black and white IBM commercial" sounds familiar to anyone?

"What's wrong?"	"That's the light."
"It won't print."	"Hey, can you print?"
"It won't print!"	"It won't print."
"It won't print."	"It's not the printer. It's the computers. Hadley downloaded a virus off the Internet."
"Jiggle the cable."	"... Hadley."
"I jiggled...I'll jiggle again."	
"That's the light."	
"That's the light?"	

The New Big Red Clock

One man's opinion of the our school's new symbol.

By Matt Davis

Almost a year ago, when MBA's long awaited library renovation was finally completed, the library was gloriously reopened for the students' use. However, the students were unaware that the whole truth had not been told. This heinous deception was not uncovered until the very end of last school year, when the final, most important element of the library was revealed: The Big Red Clock. Originally planned to be completed and installed before the grand opening of the building, the clock was meant to bring about a sense of pride, honor, and dignity to the MBA community whenever anyone noticed its presence. Sure, some of our students, faculty, and staff complained, questioning its purpose and criticizing its... less conservative appearance, but these people obviously have trouble distinguishing greatness from impracticality. There is no use denying it—it was the most spectacular piece of machinery, the most extraordinary piece of art, to ever present itself among these walls. But some shared a different opinion.

When Mr. Gioia first saw the marvelous, cardinal-rimmed clock, with giant Hindu-Arabic numerals and our school's initials on the face, displaying the very ideal of MBA, he commented, "If it were a tie in a store, it would be the one I'd describe as 'interesting,' but I wouldn't want to wear it." Others chose to side with Mr. Gioia's opinion, and it was soon

decided to send the clock back to the Tuck-Hinton architects, the same company which built the new library and the original clock, and make some modifications. The clock has been in Atlanta since before the beginning of this school year, being altered to a new design by Mr. Womack, Mr. Gioia, and Joe Montgomery. After a few delays, the clock has arrived. The rim colored to match the dark wood of the library, the "MBA" lengthened to a full "Montgomery Bell Academy", the numerals converted to the traditional Roman form, and the date of our school's founding, 1867, on the face. Even the hands have become thin, black, and just plain ordinary, which cannot compare to the magnificence of the great red-tipped hands of the older version. In the words of Mr. Gioia, the old clock was "too contemporary for a classical design," and the new one is meant to be "antique looking" and "understated." It certainly understates the superior, ingenious, ever-progressing ways of MBA. But there are those who believe the library is getting something which perfectly fits its atmosphere. This young, spiritual place is getting something nice, all right, but in this writer's opinion, absolutely nothing will ever compare to the splendor of the Big Red Clock.



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Slick Willy's

CAR OF THE MONTH

By Wilson Varnick

I want to begin this article by telling you why I chose to write it. Since I got my car (which I am still trying to pay off) during my sophomore year, I have always looked with envious eyes to other cars in the lot. The types of cars of course, included Jeeps, Hummers, and sports cars not to

mention the Broncos, Blazers and Explores. I felt insecure and ashamed of my car, although no one really knew that when I ever mentioned my car to them. You must understand that my car is painted puke green. It is really loud and extremely slow.

Finally after my Junior year, I decided it's not what is on

the outside, but what is on the inside, that counts! My car has personality! And gosh darn it, I believe my car is the best! Therefore, I have started this feature, which will appear in each edition of "The Bell Ringer," to give those people who don't necessarily have "sleek" or "pimpin'" cars a chance to come forth and publi-

cize their pride and joy. Of course, my committee and I will select one car from the faculty and one from the student body for every article. Please don't confront us with pleas or bribes in favor of your car - justice will be served. May this article run forever!



Owner: Wilson Varnick, Senior Class
Pseudonyms: Slick Willy and The Incredible Hulk
Color: Puke Green
Official Color: British Racing Green
Age: 21 Years

Number of Owners: One old lady and one mechanic
Maximum Speed: Car shakes and hubcaps fly off past 100 mph
Number of Times the Car Has Been Pulled Over: At least 10
The Good: It is easy to spot my car in the Wal-Mart parking lot on a Saturday
The Bad: I can't leave the house late at night because Slick Willy is too loud

A brief evaluation of the car with a score of 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest.

1. **Acceleration:** 1-45mph in 16 sec. By the way, 45 mph is the speed limit in most areas of town! I give it a 3 (a 2 during the winter-time).
2. **Mack-A-Bility:** It's painted puke green, but hey, it's a Mercedes-Benz. It is easily identified, especially with "SLKWILLY" written on its license plate. It also has a leather interior which was recently cleaned. I give it a 9.
3. **Stereo:** If you like cars that go BOOM, my car is not for you! It

Faculty Car of the Month: Coach Moore's Thunderbird



Coach Moore's favorite thing about the car

How students use the hole in the right headlight as a receptacle for Taco Bell trash

has one speaker: this is called a mono-stereo! The stereo itself can be set for two AM stations and three FM ones. I give it a 3 because it's old-school.

4. **Back-Seat Sleep-Ability:** Often times in my MBA career, I have found that I need somewhere to sleep, especially if I get locked out of the house. The back seat is comfortable, but a little stiff! There is also ample room for other things, like, uh, quilts. I give it a 5, with a pillow.

5. **Ability to Escape Pursuers:** Many times I have had unwanted stalkers follow my car and they appear to pose eminent danger upon my car and me. At these crucial times, I have found it beneficial to use Stealth Mode. Since my car is green, it camouflages well. It also has four-wheeling capability. Even though Slick Willy isn't fast, it hugs those curves. I give it a 7.

6. **Off-Road Capability:** There's nothing like driving through a field on a beautiful Sunday morning. The only problem is that I throw the alignment out every time. I give it a 3.

7. **Trunk Space:** This category explains itself. You can fit at least two full grown adults back there. I give it an 8!

Overall Rating: 8, but since it's my car, I give it a 10.

Movie Review--Hoodlum

By Will Howe

Hoodlum is a fictional account of the money runners in Harlem during the Great Depression of the 1930's. Money runners were groups who held illegal lotteries in the city, selling tickets for a large profit. The movie centers around the three major money runners: Dutch Schultz, played by Tim Roth, "Bumpy" Johnson, portrayed by Laurence Fishburne, and "Lucky" Luciano, played by Andy Garcia. The story revolves around the crime-ridden borough of Harlem, New York. Here there is a power struggle to increase the territory for the crime occurring in the city. After the Queen, Harlem's only black money runner, is jailed, "Bumpy" Johnson takes her place using violence

instead of the Queen's reasoning. By using his deadly influence, he gains control over the borough's money, while attempting to away his love interest, played by Vanessa Williams in the movie.

The movie deals with these key issues: the struggle of African-Americans to rise in society and gain equality, the fact that money is not as powerful as life, and that violence cannot settle all disputes. The movie contains these redeeming qualities, however, it is littered with a tremendous amount of gore and violence. At times this adds to the drama and setting, but most is unnecessary. Despite this fact, I believed that Laurence Fishburne and Tim Roth portrayed excellent characters, and I really enjoyed this action-packed, gun-swinging flick.

SUMMER MOVIES '97

By William Kavoussi and Mark Wheeler

In the beginning, God created movies. But these first movies were silent and without color which makes them seem inferior. All of the movies of our time have color and sound, but are they superior...?

- A not-to-full account of the goods and the bads of this summer's cinema:
- 1) *Cow Air*: This was an exciting, pulse-pounding, thriller that kept viewers on the edge of their seats...at least for the first forty-five minutes. It started its decline with flying sports cars and other unneeded, unrealistic plot twists. Yet the final of the middle cannot add up to the pure stupidity of the end. Wow! These convicts must be really talented to land an enormous plane in the middle of the Las Vegas strip avoiding one of those nuclear explosions so common in modern action movies. In fact, they landed quite safely...except for the fact that the main "bad guy" died. But that doesn't matter! He dies four or five times by the time the credits come up! There he is hijacking a fire truck. But don't worry, here come Forrest Gump and his navy-seal-in-a-suit, sidekick to save the day. They'll just hop on their twin, ready-to-go, key-in-the-ignition motorcycles! And sure enough, after getting shot a few times, our hero ably disposes of the villain by knocking him through a glass tunnel, through power-lines (? just off the ground), onto a portable mine cart which takes him to a prison in the middle of the street, which crushes his head. How dramatic!
 - 2) *Mov is Black*: What a gross movie. That is why we will not spend much time discussing it. There is nothing to make fun of. Sorry.
 - 3) *Air Force One*: This movie is your basic government/action movie, complete with foreign terrorists that make non-American countries look evil. Whoever makes these movies must be either a total patriot or an extremely xenophobic person...or might just be amused by foreign accents. This film was mildly entertaining until the computer game plane crashes at the end. But the worst thing about this movie was they did not let that mid-western dink from Fargo get shot until the end. If we were the "evil Russian terrorists," we would have had him hang from the wing for the entire film.
 - 4) *Event Horizon*: This was the best of the films watched over the summer. It's got just the right number of nuclear explosions. It's got the perfect amount of gore. It is a terrifying masterpiece in horror film history. It has an all-star cast from his movies that will remain nameless. Actually we've never heard of most of these people or seen them, but they did a great job of scaring the...um...pants off of us.
 - 5) *The Lost World*: This was, by far, the worst movie and biggest disappointment of the summer. It also gets the award for cheesiness. If you don't agree, explain this: "Mommy, daddy, there's a dinosaur in the backyard." Oh yes and flying, transforming, action figures! And you might say, "At least the effects were good," but I think the effects of *Jurassic Park* were much better. In this one, the dinosaurs were either computer animated blur or minimum-jointed, Cumberbund-Museum-style robots. I would not have expected this let-down from the director of Hook. Ha! This kind of garbage circulating in Hollywood gives me optimism for becoming a movie director. I may not be a Quentin Tarantino but I'm pretty confident that I can make a film with an intelligence level higher than that of a four-year-old. Amen!

CALDWELL'S CONTENDERS

By Noble Judy and Nathaniel Beaver

With almost everyone returning from last year's team, the MBA golf team started the year with one goal in mind, a state championship. Returning members are as follows: Jimmy "Skippy" Greek, Nathaniel Beaver, Matthew "Magic Fingers" Wallace, Brandt "Pale Boy" Home-Schooled Girlfriend, Ford Truckin', Drop Kickin', Scramblin', Have You Seen My New Clubs, Haynes Little Brother" Snedeker, Noble "Weights Don't Help" Judy, Brad "Will Throw Clubs for Food" McDowell and Daniel Estes. These players provide a strong foundation for the team which also includes Richard Boddy, Mike Ritzer, Ryan Shea, and Bryan "The Ever Present Sturdy" Startevant.

Brent lead in tryouts by shooting a four under 32, and Noble actually showed up for the first time in many years. In the first match, Noble Judy fired a 79 at Belle Meade Country Club. This score lead MBA to its first regular season victory against Father Ryan in three years, despite their recruit from Chattanooga. Next, MBA faced a strong Clarksville team at the Links of Ted Rhodes, and came out victorious. Noble shot 36, Brandt shot 37, Wallace shot 37, and Beaver shot 38—collectively a 148. At the Bruin Invitational, MBA got an unsatisfying third, with these scores: MW-75, NB-76, JG-76, NJ-77, and BS-79. The highlight of the tournament was Judy's average drive of 298 yards, even though he failed to hit one green with a sand wedge in twelve attempts. Against Brentwood at McCabe, the team fired a low of even par 144, with BS-33, NJ-35 (using an orange ball), and MW, NB, JG, BM-38. On a somewhat surprising note, Brandt contracted Mono (the team is afraid to ask how). However, he was in full

strength for the State, which he won.

The other bad news was the hole in Nate Beaver's head, which was caused by an opponent's golf ball. The stitches are out now, and he is ready to play.

The Gold Team is known for their famous quotes. Here are the highlights: Beaver's words of wisdom are, "Jimmy, we came here to play golf," along with "Wallace, tell your sister I said 'hi'." and "I know we bet, but can I pay you later." Noble's highlight was, "I think if I use an orange ball, I will look cool." Brandt stated, "Wallace, tell your sister I said 'hi'." and "Give me Skippy, or give me death." Brad's life motto is, "Just call me David McDowell." Coach's athletic accomplishment of the year led him to say, "Do you know how hard it is to throw a spiral with a one liter coke bottle?" and "Nathaniel, did I ask what you did?"

On a more serious note, the golf team would like to congratulate David Seobey on fan of the year and Mrs. Wallace on loyal parent of the year. Mrs. Wallace has been known to talk more trash than any MBA player or parent in the history of the school. Taylor Sutherland won second. Without their support, the team would be non-existent.

Despite the emphasis of MBA Golf, the team has been working hard in preparation for the end of the year finale. Nate Dog does not go home at night, spending hours hitting balls at the range. Noble Judy hits sand wedge after sand wedge at the range every night. Jimmy does not practice, but he skipkicks like a mad man. With all of this practice, the team is very focused on the state tournament.

Behind low scores by Brandt and Noble, the MBA golf team finished a strong second place in the state.



The Bell Ringer

Sports

October 30, 1997

Cross Country Runs Past the Competition

by Paymon Rouhanifard and David Dean

The 1997 MBA Cross Country team is one of the strongest teams in school history and looks to maintain its early season success. MBA opened the season by convincingly winning the prestigious Drake Invitational with David Dean and William Lea placing first and second.

In the season's two largest meets, the Tennessee Classic and A. F. Bridges, MBA also ran extremely well. Running against teams from Alabama, Kentucky, and Georgia, the varsity squad placed eighth overall, and also placed 1st among the independent schools.

The next week, in its most

impressive outing yet this year, MBA placed 2nd among 52 teams and 1st again among independent schools. The team was led by David Dean, who placed 5th, William Lea, who placed 9th, and Adrian Cameron, Hunter Verner, John Hart, and Derrick Fuller who all ran season-best times. Dean and Lea were also the two top Metro finishers in both meets.

The junior varsity ran extremely well in both meets indicating a strong team to come in the future. The team won the regular season district title, losing only one dual meet due to not running their top seven runners.

MBA's core is the senior

leadership of John Hart, Mark Burish, Colin Bonfiglio, Preston Bottamy, and first-year runner Derrick Fuller, who has already presented himself as a major asset on this year's squad. MBA's future looks bright with freshmen Drew Conrad and Jeff Sweeney, as well as sophomores Adam Johnson, Mason Guiffre, and Brandon Jones. Juniors Peter Chen, Paymon Rouhanifard, and Patrick Wall all look like contenders for top JV or varsity with strong showings this year.

After competing in the Catholic Invitational in Lexington, Kentucky, MBA now looks

for a sweep of the District, Metro, and Region meets. In Lexington the varsity placed 1st among over thirty schools from Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama. David Dean took first in the meet and William Lea placed sixth with the rest of the varsity running very strong. The team is currently ranked 3rd in the overall state ranking behind Oak Ridge and Houston, and has a 1st place ranking among the independent school. With continued hard work and motivation, the 1997 squad looks to be a major contender for the state title.

Lacrosse Update

The Big Red lacrosse team had a good spring season, losing only one regular season game in the state and winning the Nashville Invitational Lacrosse Tournament for the seventh consecutive year. The season began with a close but satisfying victory over one of the top teams in the state, Christian Brothers. The team then traveled to Knoxville, where they faced their toughest opponent of the year, Moeller from Ohio, and lost after a great comeback effort in the second half fell short. The Big Red then rallied for victories over Memphis University School, Baylor, and University School of Nashville.

In the finals of the Nashville Invitational Lacrosse Tournament, MBA faced yet another Ohio team, St. Xavier, whom they easily beat after a first half in which they only allowed one goal. The Big Red brought McCallie to Nashville to play in Vanderbilt Stadium, where they were defeated by a single goal in the last minute of the game. In the final game of the regular season, the Brentwood Bruins were wiped off the field by a score of 19-6.

One week before the State Championships, the 1st Annual


Alumni Lacrosse Game was held. The alumni team, which hosted many past All-Americans, could not defeat the younger, more energetic high schoolers and settled for a tie at 8-all. The lacrosse team would like to send out a special laugh at Jeff Lundstrom, who took a great number of shots but could find the net only twice.

Regrettably, the Big Red had a bad night in the semi-finals of the State Tournament and lost to Memphis University School.

This young squad had three players, Aaron Ferguson, Tyler Coleman, and Grant Dickson, considered for the honor of All-American. The MVP of the season was without a doubt Tyler Coleman, who was an All-American as a junior and may receive that honor once again. Five starters graduated from last year's team: attackman Aaron Ferguson, midfielder Jarrett Carden, defensemen Tyler Coleman and Justin Vaughn, and goalie Rob Gabbert. With a large number of returning starters and many promising underclassmen, the future for the Big Red is very bright.

MICHAEL·Renée
LIFESTYLE PORTRAITURE

salutes



Michael Griffin

Michael is an accomplished artist, works with the Big Red Club, and is Treasurer of the Student Council.

Photo: Wilson Library
Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee